submit feasibility report to the Steering Committee consisting of two Functional Director from each of CIL and NTPC. This COmmittee will send the feasibility report, if considered viable, to the Apex Committee which comprises of CEOs of CIL and NTPC. Apex Committee will consider and approve the report.

(ii) For implementation of the project, a Joint Venture Agreement will be prepared and a project specific Joint Venture Company will be formed after approval for investment and pattern of funding in the venture, by the Board of Directors of CIL and NTPC.

(iii) Once Joint Venture Company is formed, the terms of this MOU will cease to apply to that specific Joint Venture Company.

(iv) The MOU also covers the points of incorporation and Registration of JV(s), its financing, the Board/Management of JV(s), incurrence of expenditure by the parties (CIL & NTPC), confidentiality clause, purchase of excess coal/power limitation of liability, effective date and validity, settlement of disputes and arbitration, entire understanding, governing laws and jurisdiction, assignment of rights and obligations and notice clause.

(c) Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) has submitted a draft MoU proposal for joint development of an underground mining and material handling equipment and machinery manufacturing facility in and around Durgapur with CIL for revival of M/s. MAMC.

(d) The proposal of revival of M/s. MAMC is in conceptual stages. Detailed action plan will be drawn after MOU with M/s. DVC and other interested parties is signed.

Setting up of coal washeries by CIL

†3820. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited has taken a decision for setting up coal washeries on large scale to ensure supply of cent-per cent washed coal;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether complaints against private companies regarding coal washeries have been received; and

(c) if so, the action taken against such private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. Coal India Limited (CIL) has decided in principle to set up washweries with the State-of-the-art technologies on "Build and Operate" (BO) basis where Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies will provide the capital funding and other infrastructure facilities. Further, it has been decided that all new opencast projects of more than 2.50 million tonnes capacity, which are not linked to pit-head power stations should be designed with an integrated washery.

(b) Some complaints relating to the washeries in private sector located in Korba coalfield area of South Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (SECL) have been received.

(c) Private companies operating the washeries do not come under the administrative control of SECL. The coal company supplies the coal to the linked consumers and not to the washery operators.

Increasing prices of coal

3821. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited has decided to increase the price of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) its impact on the prices of essential commodities and the rate of inflation; and

(d) the steps taken to stop illegal mining of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) No, Sir.